THE

ORDEAL.

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POLITICAL.

As there are to be found in the ſervice of envy, men of every diverſity of temper, and degree of underſtanding, calumny is diffuſed by all arts and methods of propagation. Nothing is too groſs or too refined, too cruel or too trifling, to be practiſed; very little regard is had to the rules of honourable hoſtility, but every weapon is accounted lawful; and thoſe who cannot make a thruſt at life, are content to keep themſelves in play with petty malevolence, to teize with feeble blows and impotent diſturbance. *Rambler.*

PREFATORY REMARKS.

FEW people are inclined to enter into the views of an author in a long and elaborate investigation of the points in national policy which may have been adopted by government, particularly if they are obscured by any intrinsick intricacy, or difficulty of elucidation. A long argument deters the mind of a general reader; and a subtle controversy, in order to be well understood, must be read with attention, at leisure, and with a mind otherwise unoccupied. These qualifications are not always at command, or if some readers are ready to enter into a disquisition at a moment, they make a very small proportion of the main body of the people; and it therefore seems necessary to resort to some system of controversy which shall neither be too insignificant to interest the scientifick politician, nor too abstruse to be comprehended by the great body of the people; to adopt a style of reasoning, which, whilst it shall not be destitute of dignity, shall afford pleasure by the facility with which the information may be conveyed and the ease with which conclusions may be formed.

The impressions, therefore, which such considerations have produced, have led us to imagine that no system of political discussion can be of more use, whilst it unites all the advantages we have suggested, than a complete exposure of the fabrications, false assertions, misrepresentations and errours of the democrats,

as they may be found in papers notoriously the most prostituted to the service of that party. The lies which can be proved, discovered, or inferred, will necessarily be various in their nature, so that the exposure of them will command occasionally a reference to authorities in respect to principles and facts, which will raise the composition to all the dignity of controversy, will generally afford some novelty of investigation, and will always be conducted with sufficient brevity to enable every reader to follow any single refutation without any obtrusive calls on his patience, or his time. If an objection should be advanced that the lies of the democratick prints carry an antidote to the poison they contain, in the unblushing profligacy with which it is presented, it still may be with reason advanced, that the federalists should not only be sound in their persuasion, but should be repeatedly confirmed in their faith, and the unblushing falsehoods of democracy will be a powerful motive to produce such confirmation. But besides, there are numerous artful insinuations, innuendoes, and assertions which, having a semblance of truth, are adapted to produce erroneous conclusions; these are calculated to do much mischief in society, and therefore should be acutely investigated, vigorously contested, and completely overturned. There is no necessity to refute self-evident falsehoods by long arguments; all that is necessary is to place them in a striking light, and state the main fact which is requisite to disprove the assertion; but on these subtleties of deception, the reasonings must occasionally be nice and appeals to authorities frequent; in proportion to the probable evils which they will produce must be our exertions in detecting their fallacy and turpitude.

We shall employ a considerable proportion of the present number of our paper in this service, and hope that its usefulness will be its apology to those persons, who may suppose its want of novelty to require one.

POLITICAL FALSEHOODS.

'But this faction' (the federalists) 'find they are denounced by the British ministry, by totally neglecting the system recommended by them.'

Chronicle, May 22.

Yet the Chronicle will persist in asserting that the federal editors are paid in British gold, that the British party in this country is acknowledged by the ministry (by Mr. Stephens for exam-

ple) in the House of Commons, and that they adopt a policy in Great-Britan conformable to the recommendation of Mr. Pickering, and the faction, of whose diabolical machinations he is the principal mover. Notwithstanding all the ill-treatment which they have received, from the ministry, notwithstanding all the grounds of discussion on which the faction formerly stood, are now considered untenable according to the Chronicle writers, yet the federalists still hug their denunciators, kiss their chains, and praise their tyrants. Let us look at the same Chronicle from which we have quoted our text.

'They' (the English faction) 'sicken at the idea of a good understanding with France; but in this they are perfectly consistent. They owe eternal hatred to the French nation for assisting this country in its struggle to throw off the British yoke, and they hate Bonaparte, because in Spain he humbled the pride of their *bosom friends* the English; who took to their heels when pursued by his legions.'

'Nothing therefore, can be more clear than that the decided conduct of Mr. Jefferson in connection with the known avowal of principles by Mr. Madison must have led the ministry to retreat from the high ground which Rose had assumed, and after finding all the representations from the Boston faction and elsewhere were likely to prove fallacious, they are obliged to submit to the unequivocal terms laid down by Mr. Jefferson and approved by Mr. Madison.' *Chronicle, May* 22.

The foregoing conclusion is drawn from an opinion expressed by the Governour of Lower Canada, that the non-intercourse law was '*a feature of hostility* more strongly marked than the embargo,' which idea is disproved by the declaration of Mr. Erskine, that the non-intercourse law, by placing both France and England upon the same level, was *the cause which produced the repeal* of the Orders in Council in favour of America; and removed the difficulties which had previously existed respecting the amount of reparation due for the aggression on the Chesapeak. The difference of opinion between the Governour of Canada and the English minister, Mr. Erskine, is then a *proof* of the efficacy of the embargo! The whole of the passage we have quoted, as our text, is utterly destitute of truth, whether it be considered as a statement of facts, or a proposition of arguments. The passage in the first place alludes to the '*decided conduct of* Mr. Jefferson,' let the democrats shew this decision: Next, the as-

sertion, is that the English 'ministry have *retreated from the high ground* which Rose had assumed.' This is false in two views; for Mr. Rose never *assumed* any ground, he merely acted in obedience to his instructions; but it would be very difficult to show that the obstructions which then impeded the reparation for the Chesapeak aggression were not removed by our non-intercourse law; which the democrats must do before they can affirm with truth that the British ministers have *retreated* from their first position.

Another false insinuation is too ridiculous to refute; it is the idea of any representation being made to the British government from the federalists in America; yet it has been made the theme of democratick brawling in the Chronicle for years, without a single argument either from reason or fact, to substantiate the notion, without the least colour of truth to decorate it with a remote semblance of plausibility.

Another assertion is that the British government has 'been obliged to submit to the unequivocal terms laid down by Mr. Jefferson and approved by Mr. Madison.' We will now affirm that this suggestion is not only destitute of truth, but that our administration of government have deserted their own ground in various important particulars. We challenge any democratick paper to prove either the assertion from this Chronicle, viz. 'that the British government have submitted to our terms,' or to disprove the assertion which we have made, viz. 'that our government have deserted their own ground in various important particulars.' If they meet the argument fairly, and come properly into the discussion, they may rely upon it, that we shall not withdraw from the strictest investigation of all the points involved in the controversy. But we shall not descend to notice individual abuse, to repel indiscriminate assault, nor general declamation.

MISREPRESENTATION.

'The Washington and Adams federalists *must be ashamed of their abuse of France*, while their patrons are so lavish in their praise.' *Chronicle, May* 22.

It is no less singular than absurd, that any set of men in this country should complain of their political opponents for abusing *imperial* France. The dangers of her power, and the unlimited ambition of her ruler, should be placed constantly in the view of the people of America, to prepare them to meet with

fortitude, and repel with courage, all the efforts of Napoleon to subjugate them. Have the democrats extolled republican France? Have they used all their endeavours to extend their principles by the formation of jacobinical societies, have they extinguished their former old fashioned prejudices in order to purify themselves for worship in the temple of republican liberty? And yet do they now make the theme of their most extravagant panegyrick, the *man* who has overturned that temple, who has not left one stone resting upon another in the fabrick; the tyrant who has extinguished every right but that of power, and violated every tender feeling for the gratification of his malignant passions, who in one word has made France a military despotism? The deceptions of French republicanism no longer delude; we have long ago found out the corruption that lurked within, though the sepulchre was attractive without. But French despotism is more manifestly dangerous to us, than even the anarchy of the revolution. The ancient countries are chained and fastened by the mighty grasp of the gigantick despot; we no longer apprehend what *may* be done to subvert the liberties of existing governments; we have witnessed what *has been* done in utterly destroying that liberty. We want no Edmund Burke to raise the spirits of sedition, malignity, turbulence, and oppression, and then to dispel them by the day light of his understanding. Our dangers, horrid and portentous, are thickening every moment in the political horizon, and every moment approach us; the comet shakes from his horrid hair, dismay and death; yet the democrats hail the day with rapture, when 'pestilence and war' may be realized from the dreadful luminary, and denounce the federalists that they contemplate the prospect of such scenes with any other sensations than those of rapturous exultation.

GOVERNOUR LINCOLN AGAIN.

'The commander in chief felicitates himself that from these instructions there will be seen as well the indications of a friendly adjustment with France as with Great-Britain, and that should such be the happy fruits of the pacifick and wise policy pursued by the late administration, it cannot fail of forcing in return, grateful acknowledgments from the candour and patriotism of every American. He congratulates his fellow citizens on the superiour resources their country *possesses for preserving peace, and her rights in a disciplined militia and commercial regulations*; these are fully evinced by actual experience, and reflection on the nature and tendency of past measures.'

General Orders of May 13, 1809.

The reasoning of his Honour the Lieutenant Governour of this commonwealth upon the subject of a friendly adjustment of our differences with foreign nations, not being in itself sufficiently erroneous, he undertakes to use it at an improper time, and in a place where we should least have expected it, a military order. It seems the President of the United States has instructed his Honour, that the detachment of the 11,000 militia formed in this state last November, is no longer required to be held in readiness for actual service ; hence his Honour comes to the decided conclusion which is drawn in the quotation we have just made. The venomous malignity and spite which Mr. Lincoln feels would probably never have been spurted forth in an official shape, unless he had seized as a last resort, this most improper vehicle of conveyance : but we presume his Honour may have determined to continue consistent until the final termination of his political career. A death-bed repentance can have no attractions for a man without a sense of shame, without any established principles of faith. Let us examine for a moment the points which he has suggested in one short paragraph, that are not founded in reason or on fact.

1st. That indications of a settlement with France as well as Great-Britain, may be discovered in the directions to disband the militia.

2d. That these adjustments will have been the fruits of the pacifick and wise policy pursued by the late administration.

In the first place these instructions can afford no indications of an adjustment with Great-Britain ; the best indications upon that subject, were the letters of Mr. Erskine and Mr. Smith ; and the instructions were the result of that friendly adjustment.— With regard to France it must be well known to his Honour, that not a single fact has transpired which can warrant the conclusion that she is even favourably disposed towards this country. On the contrary, it would not be in the least degree surprizing if Napoleon should prefer a series of complaints against us, in consequence of our accommodation with Great-Britain, and probably declare, though he could not be able to conduct, a war against the United States. That the British ministry imagine this will be the course of his conduct, it is not unreasonable to presume. How otherwise can it be accounted for, that in this settlement with us, they have offered terms much *within* the line of

limitation upon which the non-intercourse law was established? Mr. Pinckney was authorized to settle our differences, or at least to restore commercial intercourse upon terms infinitely less favourable to us than those which we have now been spontaneously offered by Great-Britain. This is a kind of game which we should naturally expect from the subtlety of Mr. Canning's diplomacy; but we have no reason to believe that he would, without some really powerful, indeed without some almost irresistible motive, consent to a settlement of the dispute between the two countries upon the liberal conditions on which the controversy is now based, when he had it completely in his power almost to have dictated a renewal of commercial intercourse to the American government. 'There is something in this policy more than natural, if philosophy could find it out.'

It is ridiculously futile then, to suppose in opposition to probability, as well as in direct repugnance to fact, that any indications are to be seen in the instructions of the President relative to the detachment of the militia, that France as well as Great-Britain, has come to a friendly adjustment. France began the aggression upon us by unjust edicts against neutral commerce and we do not believe she will see any reason to change her plan of hostility, especially when she will percieve very clearly, that she will not be able to derive any benefit from her colonies. They will certainly be blockaded by Great-Britain, in order to secure the advantages of her own West-Indian monopoly. The late Dutch decree too is another consideration, directly in the teeth of the supposition, that any accommodation with France is to occur.—A decree more hostile in its effects, more unprincipled in its doctrine, and more inhuman in its nature, than all the impressment system which is practised by Great-Britain. But if France must be coupled with England, by his Honour, in this accommodation, why is not the correspondence in which it has been concluded upon made publick? His Honour's order erroneously places both nations upon the same level of accommodation.

In respect to the second point on which he congratulates his fellow citizens, on the importance of the militia and commercial regulations, in restraining the temerity of foreign nations, we cannot but view such an hypothesis with alternate pity and contempt. That a man who even pretends to assume the name, much less aim at the character of a statesman, should expect the

terrours of our militia men of buckram, and our parchment hostility, should frighten Great-Britain into compliance with our system of policy, and make Napoleon tremble for the loss of the *property* of his subjects, who utterly disregards how many of their lives he sacrifices to consummate his ambition, would be as utterly incredible as it is preposterous, did not the opinions of his Honour Levi Lincoln give currency to the absurdity.—Yes, these adjustments of our differences have 'been the fruits of the pacifick and wise policy pursued by the late administration.' We presume the raising 100,000 militia is pacifick policy; at any rate it is just about as coercive as our non-intercourse and embargo systems. The truth is, we must resort to other causes than those inefficient ones, to discover the reasons which have produced the late happy termination of our national differences.

It is fortunate for his Honour, that he is about to retire, just at the present moment; since his daring conduct respecting the militia last winter has not yet been forgotten. The attempt to enforce without authority the last embargo law, which stamped such indelible infamy upon the administration which enacted it; the peculiar circumstances of cunning, turpitude and hypocrisy which accompanied the transaction, and the secrecy which betrayed his Honour's conviction of his crime, have marked this feature in his conduct with a character so indelibly infamous, that the most superficial novice in physiognomy, on the first exhibition of the picture, would shrink with horror at the contemplation of his visage. It is fortunate therefore that his Honour is about to quit the scene of business, though not the scene of disgrace; he may now escape impeachment; but had he remained, it is probable the justice of his country would have condemned him to an exemplary fate, commensurate with the blackness of his designs.

POPULAR ERROURS

Respecting the number of the French armies, refuted.

THE expectation of hostilities between France and Austria renders all military discussions of peculiar interest at the present moment.—The following intelligent remarks upon the state of the French armies are taken from the *London National Register.*

'Let us now examine if the etats of the French army are not false and exaggerated. But we must make a material discrimination. The exaggerations of the French are not an effect of vanity and folly, but a characteristick feature in Bonaparte's system. By this pompous display of his military resources, he expected to strike a terrour into all the states of Europe, and to convince them how useless resistance would be to such an army. Let us now see how far the armies he employed against Austria and Russia in the year 1805, will agree with the etat he published in the beginning of the same year.

'Bonaparte long foresaw the coalition forming against him by this country, the emperours Alexander and Francis. In order to convince the French however, that this event was unexpected, he gave orders that the army collected at Boulogne, Brest, and Holland, should embark, in order to make the vaunted invasion of England. He had two objects in view when he made this gasconade. He wanted to convince the French that this project was capable of execution, and thus save his own reputation; whilst he hoped to prevent our government from sending immediate assistance to the allies. His second object was to make his soldiers, whom he knew to feel the greatest repugnance and apprehension to a meeting with our seamen, enter with greater alacrity on a continental war. The wary usurper was not mistaken in his expectations. He kept the soldiers confined for about five or six days on board the vessels destined for this grand expedition; and when they were informed that the *perfidy* of the Austrian government obliged them to defer their vengeance against the tyrants of the ocean, they gave unequivocal proof of their joy at being employed on any other service, than that of attempting a descent on our shores. They therefore proceeded with greater alacrity to attack the Austrians and Russians on the banks of the Danube. The terrour they felt at the possibility of a rencontre with our mariners outweighed every consideration, and though they by no means forgot their former ill-success against Suwarrow, this circumstance was trifling in their opinion compared to the danger of being exposed to the thunder of our navy. As we had an opportunity of procuring at that time an exact amount of three corps of that army, we hope to be able to form a satisfactory conclusion as to the amount of the whole.

'This army, with which Bonaparte intended to oppose Mack and the Russians, consisted at first of eight corps, to which a ninth was afterwards added. When Marmont's corps passed through Cologne, the writer happened to be in that city, and as he was intimately acquainted with the mayor and one of his adjuncts, he had an opportunity of knowing precisely its amount. It consisted of 18,000 French, and 6000 Dutch, the latter commanded by Dumonceau. The whole corps, cavalry, infantry, artillery, and baggage, passed in the course of three days. No mistake could occur as to their number, because or-

ders were every day received at the mayoralty, to provide quarters for those who were to arrive on the following. He had in like manner an opportunity of ascertaining the amount of Bernadotte's corps, having spent a considerable time in Cassel, after it had passed through that city. From every intelligence he received during his stay there, he is led to believe that it did not amount to more than 14,000, though the newspaper published in that city made it consist of 17,500. The amount of Ney's corps he received from one of his aid-de-camps, with whom he lodged in the same inn, at Frankfort on the Mayne, a short time after the peace of Presburgh. If his statement may be relied on, it consisted of somewhat more than 20,000. We have thus the amount of three corps, making altogether about 61,000 men. If we take the same proportion for the other five corps, we shall find that the army commanded by Bonaparte in person, consisted of about 160,000.—When we reflect that it was joined by the troops of Bavaria, Wurtemburgh, and Baden, and had to contend with only 70,000 Austrians, conducted by a Mack, we shall find it more than adequate for overrunning Austria. However, very far from thinking we underrate its number, we are rather inclined to believe we estimate it too high. It surpassed any force the Allies could oppose to it, as much in number as it did in celerity of operation and superiority of skill on the part of the generals. Bonaparte may be a very great general, and those who look on success as the criterion of ability, may consider him as distinguished a statesman; but when the vast advantages he possessed over the allies, are taken into consideration, his victories at Ulm, Austerlitz, and Jena, must cease to excite admiration. The army commanded by Massena was never computed at more than 60,000. This distinguished officer was ordered to act on the defensive; and it is natural to suppose that Bonaparte was too jealous of his reputation to entrust him with a more numerous force. To oppose the attack which the Russians and Swedes in conjunction with lord Cathcart, threatened to make on Holland, orders were given to collect an army of 100,000 men.—We know it however, to be a positive fact, that 35,000, notwithstanding every exertion, were never assembled for that purpose; and we are happy to hear that our statement on this particular point coincides, with very immaterial difference, with that of lord Cathcart. In summing up, therefore, the different armies which were employed against Austria, and for the defence of Holland, we shall find they amount to about 250,000,

'Before we proceed further, it will be necessary to revert to the conduct observed by Bonaparte in all the wars he has been engaged in.—If any thing is to be particularly admired in his military operations, it is the audacity with which he leaves a number of points exposed, in order to bear down with his whole mass where the danger is most imminent; calculating very justly that any partial defeat he may sustain

in any of those places will be easily remedied, after he has disabled the principal antagonist. Persons who have travelled much in France, cannot have failed to observe, that in time of war, scarce a soldier is to be seen in the interiour; and after the peace of Presburgh, our readers will not have forgotten the reproaches Bonaparte made our government, that it made no attempt against Boulogne, *as every soldier had been withdrawn from the coasts*. His reproach was well grounded, for there were not 8,000 men left for its defence. We had been frequently informed and we have our information from the best authority, that 20,000 were not left for the defence of the coasts, during the whole course of the Austrian war. This account we the more easily credit, as it was conformable to sound policy, and perfectly coinciding with the uniform conduct and character of Bonaparte. He knew that Europe estimated his armies much higher than they really were; and he calculated as a sound politician, when he supposed this country would make no attempt against Brabant, as long as he was successful against Austria. His audacity, therefore, so far from deserving to be considered as rashness, was the most consummate wisdom; and the result justified his combinations. He did not overlook, in like manner, the demonstrations which Prussia began to make about that time. Is there any reason then to suppose that a man whose great abilities are universally acknowledged, would have left useless soldiers in the interiour, when their presence was so necessary in Germany? We are therefore justified in drawing the conclusion, that all his armies at that time, in which we have included his Dutch and Italian auxiliaries, with the *gens d'armerie*, did not amount to 300,000 men. This opinion is irrefragably proved by the difficulty which Mortier had, during the Prussian war, of collecting a sufficient force to resist a small army of about 14,000 Swedes in Pomerania, and his inability to keep Colberg in constant blockade, whose garrison was in the habit of making excursions for several leagues from the fortress, in one of which they made general Victor prisoner. It is necessary once more to observe that the French had only 100,000 Russians to oppose in Poland. However, notwithstanding their Rhenish confederates, their Dutch, Italian and Spanish auxiliaries, it is astonishing how very few men they left for the defence of the country between the Rhine and Vistula, a circumstance which will strongly prove the incapacity and criminal indifference of the late administration. They looked with as much apathy on the last struggle of European independence, as if it had been a predatory war between the deys of Algiers and Tunis; though every letter from Mr. Thornton must have convinced them that a diversion of about 30,000 between the Ems and Weser, particularly after the battle of Eylau, would have raised Hanover, Hessia, and perhaps Holland. But let us abandon that disgraceful subject: and hasten to our conclusion. From the facts we have alledged, supported by the late events in Spain, and

the unaccountable indifference of Bonaparte relative to the Austrian armaments, we are convinced we risk nothing in maintaining that the French army, Dutch and Italians included, does not consist of more than TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND MEN.

REVIEW.

Tears and Smiles, a Comedy, by J. N. Barker.—New-York, published by David Longworth.

The Indian Princess or La Belle Sauvage, an Operatick Melo-Drame, in three acts, by J. N. Barker.—New-York, published by David Longworth.

The two productions which we have undertaken to notice are entitled to higher praise than most of the later dramas of Reynolds and Morton, and may claim as distinguished a rank in dramatick literature as that to which the compositions of Kenny and Allingham can reasonably aspire. There exists in this country such a want of judgment, or rather of determination, such an unconquerable prejudice against American plays, and even such a loathing to every allusion which is American in its nature, that an author is obliged to struggle in his flight to renown against an intolerable weight of prejudices and passions, which every moment threaten to sink him to the earth. Nor is this all; he is obliged to endure a comparison with men of genius in Europe, who are greatly encouraged, and whose productions reach this country without difficulty, and the charms even of local allusion which gratify in England, are with little variation equally attractive in this country. Mr. Colman was offered fourteen hundred pounds sterling, for his last play, of the Africans, by Mr. Harris, manager of the Covent Garden Theatre, and is said to have refused it. Such being the state of publick encouragement in Great-Britain, the American genius would be obliged to pine in poverty, oppressed by discouragement and neglect, and like Massinger and Otway, die unnoticed and unknown, should he attempt to gain his subsistence by labours in the dramatick field. The two pieces before us are written by one author, and although by no means equal in execution, or correspondent in design, may fairly be reviewed under the same

head. The play of Tears and Smiles was first acted at the Philadelphia Theatre in the year 1807.

The plot is rather complex and not very judiciously unfolded. Mr. Campdon, during the American revolution was a merchant in Hamburgh, where he amassed an ample fortune; and returns to America, his native country, with two children, Sydney and Clara, whom accident threw in his way in Europe, but of whose origin he is utterly ignorant. A letter which he received with them, whilst it conjures him to be their father, has the name of the writer totally effaced. Campdon however, protects them and passes them upon the world as the children of a friend.—Three years before the play commences, Clara had eloped, as is supposed, no one knows with whom or whither; and Sidney gains the affections of Louisa Campdon, the daughter of his protector, so much against the inclination of her father, that he obtains for him a commission in the American navy, in order to remove him from her presence. In the mean time, old Campdon determines to marry his daughter to Fluttermore, an American coxcomb, who like the monkey in Gay's fables, had travelled to reform the times, and had just returned to Philadelphia, as the play opens, with a head filled with all the foreign absurdities which he could remember. Sidney who had inspired Louisa Campdon with a mutual passion, arrives from the Mediterranean, where he had distinguished himself at the siege of Tripoli, just as the marriage with Fluttermore is about to be consummated. Old Campdon determines to have Louisa married on that very night in order to elude the dangers which Sidney's arrival had excited, and Louisa resolves to escape from a tyranny which refused her the respite of a day. Sidney, on the other hand, equally distressed, consults with Osbert, a friend who had returned with him from Gibraltar, upon the propriety of an elopement; he dissuades him, and at length, finding every other argument fruitless, *commands* him on the authority of a *father*, not to disgrace his parents and his own honour, by ingratitude to his benefactor. The elopement is thus prevented. Fluttermore it seems, had been the seducer of Clara, three years before, and she had retired into obscurity, near the seat of General Campdon, and hearing of the marriage which was about to take place, she comes forward to require Fluttermore to protect his offspring; but he in the mean time, hearing of her distress, agrees to make

her all the amends in his power by marriage: and as he has never been anxious for a connection with Miss Campdon, the way is thus regularly opened for her marriage with Sidney, Old Campdon consents, and then finds that Osbert, in whom Sidney had discovered his father, was the correspondent whose name was effaced from the letter entrusting Sidney and Clara to his care.

Madam Clermont, the wife of Albert, had married him clandestinely in Europe, against the will of her family, which was of exalted rank; she was torn from his arms and hurried to a convent, and he was compelled to fly, with his two children, from the exasperated vengeance of her family.

Albert left his children, with a letter to Campdon, in the care of a servant, who faithfully discharged his trust; but was himself hurried to Toulon and conveyed on board a vessel, which was soon afterwards taken by a Barbary corsair, and he remained a prisoner thirteen years. He sought his children in Germany, but his friend had long before disappeared; for his wife in France, but the convent was demolished and her family had become extinct; meeting with Sidney in Gibraltar, he discovered in America all the happiness he had so long been seeking in vain.

There is an underplot, which ultimately unites the Widow Freegrace with Rangely, presumptively borrowed in many respects from Hoadley's character of Ranger in the Suspicious Husband. The dialogue is often lively and animated; the characters natural, and generally well preserved. We are, however, fearful that the story is not developed with such clearness, as to leave the mind of a spectator free from perplexity at the conclusion.

The story of the Indian Princess, is extracted according to our author's account, from the General History of Virginia, written by Capt. Smith, and printed in 1624; and its principal interest is derived from the loves of Rolfe and Pochahontas, which must be familiar to most of our readers. The radical objection to this production, is the melo-dramatick cast which is given to it; but it contains occasional touches of nature, which bestow a charm upon it, in spite of the intrinsick defect in its formation. The Indian character is generally well preserved, and there is a tenderness in Pochahontas, which whilst it accords with the his-

torical account, confers uncommon interest upon the fable.—The following extract is a fair example of the phraseology of an Indian warrior:

Miami. (approaches Pochahontas, and his attendants lay skins at her feet.) Princess, behold the spoils I bring thee. Our hunters are laden with the deer and the soft furred beaver. But Miami scorned such prey. I watched for the mighty buffaloe and the shaggy bear, my club felled them to the ground, and I tore the skins from their backs. The fierce carcajou had wound himself round the tree, ready to dart upon the hunter; but the hunter's eyes were not closed, and the carcajou quivered on the point of my spear. I heard the wolf howl as he looked at the moon, and the beams that fell upon his up turned face, showed my tomahawk the spot it was to enter. I marked where the panther had couched, and before he could spring, my arrow went into his heart. Behold the spoil the Susquehannock brings thee!

The ensuing love scene between Rolf and Pochahontas is well wrought, replete with tenderness, and superiour to the composition of most of the modern European play-compilers.

Enter ROLFE *and* POCAHONTAS.

Prs. Nay let me on——
Rol. No further, gentle love;
The rugged way has wearied you already.
Prs. Feels the wood pigeon weariness, who flies,
Mated with her beloved? Ah! lover, no.
Rol. Sweet! in this grove we will exchange adieus;
My steps should point straight onward; were thou with me,
Thy voice would bid me quit the forward path
At every pace, or fix my side-long look,
Spell-bound, upon thy beauties.
Prs. Ah! you love not
The wild-wood prattle of the Indian maid,
As once you did.
Rol. By heaven! my thirsty ear,
Could ever drink its liquid melody.
Oh! I could talk with thee, till hasty night,
Ere yet the centinel day had done his watch;
Veil'd like a spy, should steal on printless feet,
To listen to our parley! Dearest love!
My captain has arrived, and I do know,
When honour and when duty call upon me,
Thou wouldst not have me chid for tardiness.
But, ere the matin of to-morrow's lark,
Do echo from the roof of nature's temple,
Sweetest, expect me.
Prs. Wilt thou surely come?
Rol. To win thee from thy father will I come;
And my commander's voice shall join with mine,
Too woo Powhatan to resign his treasure.
Prs. Go then, but ah! forget not——
Rol. I'll forget
All else, to think on thee!

Prs. Thou art my life!
I lived not till I saw thee, love; and now,
I live not in thine absence. Long, O! long
I was the savage child of savage Nature;
And when her flowers sprang up, while each green bough
Sang with the passing west wind's rustling breath;
When her warm visitor, flush'd Summer, came,
Or Autumn strew'd her yellow leaves around,
Or the shrill north wind pip'd his mournful music,
I saw the changing brow of my wild mother
With neither love nor dread. But now, O! now,
I could entreat her for eternal smiles,
So thou might'st range through groves of lovelier flowers,
Where never Winter with his icy lip,
Should dare to press thy cheek.
Rol. My sweet enthusiast!
Prs. O! 'tis from thee that I have drawn my being:
Thou'st ta'en me from the path of savage errour,
Blood-stain'd and rude, where rove my countrymen,
And taught me heavenly truths, and fill'd my heart
With sentiments sublime, and sweet and social.
Oft has my winged spirit, following thine,
Cours'd the bright day-beam, and the star of night,
And every rolling planet of the sky,
Around their circling orbits. O my love,
Guided by thee, has not my daring soul
O'ertopt the far-off mountains of the east,
Where, as our fathers fable, shadowy hunters
Pursue the deer, or clasp the melting maid,
Mid ever blooming spring? Thence, soaring high
From the deep vale of legendary fiction
Hast thou not heaven-ward turn'd my dazzled sight,
Where sing the spirits of the blessed good
Around the bright throne of the Holy One?
This thou hast done; and ah! what couldst thou more,
Belov'd preceptor, but direct that ray,
Which beams from heaven to animate existence,
And bid my swelling bosom beat with love!

The Indian Princess certainly deserves encouragement, and were it not that it is so blended with the absurdities of the melo-drama we should have no hesitation in recommending it to the attention of the managers of the Boston Theatre, for the next season.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

15 The Patriotick Proceedings of the Legislature of Massachusetts, during their Session from Jan. 26, to March 4, 1809. Boston, J. Belcher, and T. Wells.

16 The Embargo Laws, with the Message from the President, upon which they were founded; to which is added an Appendix, containing various important state papers. Boston, J. Cushing and J. Belcher.